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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: ISAAC SAIAS

Application No.: 09/388,123

Filed: August 31, 1999

For: A METHOD FOR PERFORMING

SOCIAL COMPUTATION

Group Art Unit: 2785

Examiner: TBD

Attorney Docket No.: 9392-011

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the merits, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-6 and 10-13, without prejudice.

Please amend the following claims:

4. (Amended) A method for detecting at least one emergent concept among a plurality of sites comprising the steps of:

creating at least one adjacency matrix, A, said adjacency matrix having a plurality of entries, Aii.

> wherein[:] i and j are among said plurality of sites; $A_{i,j} = r$ if said sites[,] i, jare connected; $A_{i,j} = 0$ otherwise; and r is a positive number that represents a strength of connection between sites;

computing [the] a transpose matrix, A^T , of said adjacency matrix A; and computing [the] nth [eigenvector] eigenvectors, X⁽ⁿ⁾ and Y⁽ⁿ⁾, of the matrix [product] <u>products</u> of said transpose matrix and said adjacency matrix, $A^T A$ and $A A^T$ respectively, for

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